

MOZAMBIQUE



REVOLUTION

june - july
1967

M O Z A M B I Q U E L I B E R A T I O N F R O N T

- FRELIMO -

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Editorial

On the 13th of July the Portuguese "Overseas" Minister arrived in Mozambique, making his second visit to this "province" since he began his term of office. On this occasion the pretext is the inauguration of the so called "Congress of the Communities of Portuguese culture". This is not, however, the real reason for the minister's presence. The real reason is hinted at in the final part of the Communiqué of the Lusitania News Agency, which announces the visit. There it is said that "The Overseas Minister will visit Cabo Delgado, and this visit is awaited there with great anxiety because the (Portuguese) population is hoping that it will provide solutions for some of their most pressing problems".

There is a certain parallel between this visit and the one that McNamara, the American Defense Secretary, paid to South Vietnam earlier this month. McNamara has already been to Vietnam 9 times before. By analysing the situation which preceded these visits we can see that each one coincided with a period in which the American forces had suffered severe setbacks. His presence was part of an attempt to revitalise an army which had lost its initiative and was being defeated on all fronts.

The comparison with Mozambique holds good. For what is the situation there which has precipitated this visit of the "Overseas" Minister? What are those "pressing problems" which affect the Portuguese population and which, as they hope, the arrival of the "Overseas" Minister is going to solve? Anyone who has followed the evolution of the struggle in Mozambique will know that, during the past months our liberation forces have won a series of very important victories over the Portuguese colonial army. Nearly every day Portuguese soldiers fall into ambushes organised by our guerrillas, while our forces are already able to attack and destroy Portuguese military posts, such as the one at MARERE, taken a few weeks ago. During the period between the 9th of February and the 19 of May, in Niassa, and between the 1st of April and the 7th of June in Cabo Delgado, our fighters

liquidated about 1200 Portuguese soldiers, destroyed over 40 military vehicles and sabotaged a number of roads and bridges. The administrative, economic and military organisation of those provinces is completely dismantled. This is clearly why the Portuguese population is asking the Central Government of Lisbon for special measures, since the local authorities have shown themselves quite unable to cope with the situation. That is why the "Overseas" Minister has had to return to Mozambique to encourage the demoralised Portuguese population and promise them "more energetic action" by the Central Government against the "terrorists", to repeat to them the same empty words he used in 1965: "I am sure that the difficulties will be overcome and that, if the enemy is persistent we shall be more persistent we shall be more persistent and we shall win."

The Portuguese population, however, will not be content with words; they will want action. The cry will come not only from those few Portuguese who still live within the fighting areas, inside the military posts, but also from the big capitalists who live in Lucrenço Marques or Lisbon and who had large investments in companies operating in the Northern regions and which have been forced to close because of the fighting. These powerful individuals, particularly, will use their money and influence to force the government to more "action". The loss of the fat profits they were making before our revolution began, makes them into "Good Portuguese" profoundly preoccupied with the "unity and indivisibility of the Empire which our ancestors transmitted to us."

What measures can the Portuguese Government take to content the Portuguese population? - Obviously to send more troops from Portugal. But will more troops make any difference to the situation? We have good reason to think that they will have an effect, but not the one the Portuguese hope for. They will, in fact, have the very opposite result. Our experience in 3 years of armed struggle is that the more soldiers are sent, the more are killed and thus

the more those remaining become demoralised and lose their capacity to fight. This, supported by the knowledge that they are fighting not to defend their own interests but those of a handful of big property holders, makes them avoid battle whenever possible. The only attacks now, in which they take the initiative, (and these are becoming increasingly common) are against the defenseless civilian African population.

Clearly then, the visit of the Portuguese minister will do nothing to solve the "pressing problems" of the Portuguese population in Mozambique. Our revolution has already reached a stage at which it is impossible for the Portuguese to win a military victory, much less, for obvious reasons, a political one. Therefore the only way in which the visit of this minister could possibly be useful would be if he were coming with instructions from the Portuguese government to recognise the right of our people to self-determination and independence. That would also benefit the Portuguese population, for their rights would be respected in a country at peace, under democratic rule, where the power would belong to the African majority.

We know, however that the Portuguese minister did not come to recognise our right to self-determination. Therefore, just as McNamara has already gone 9 times to Vietnam, so this visit of the minister to Mozambique will only be the second of a long chain, alternating with tours by the defense minister, who was in Mozambique only last September. These visits will always be related to the growing failure of the Portuguese forces and the constant dissatisfaction of the Portuguese population with the increasingly chaotic state of affairs in the administrative and economic fields.

FRELIMO

MOZAMBIQUE LIBERATION FRONT

Communiqué

CABO DELGADO PROVINCE

FRELIMO guerrillas have intensified their campaign in the Cabo Delgado province and between the 1st of April and the 7th of June 28 military operations were carried out. In the course of these, 16 military vehicles were destroyed and over 350 Portuguese soldiers were killed.

- On the 3rd of April FRELIMO guerrillas ambushed a convoy of 4 jeeps and 2 lorries, which were escorting a shipment of food supplies from MONTEPUEZ to MUEDA. 3 vehicles were destroyed and more than 20 Portuguese soldiers were killed.

- 26th April: at 3.15 am. a platoon of FRELIMO forces attacked the enemy camp of MUGUIA, 30 kms. from the post of NATULO, which controlled a strategic hamlet. In this attack 17 Portuguese soldiers were killed and about 20 were wounded. After the attack, most of the people of that hamlet escaped and asked for protection from FRELIMO forces.

- 1st of May: FRELIMO guerrillas in cooperation with the people blocked the road between CHITOLO and NJUDI with tree trunks, and placed a mine under the trucks. On the same day, at 8.15 am. a group of enemy soldiers, with the mission to build a bridge over the river MUMU arrived at the sabotaged zone and started to clear the blockade. The mine exploded killing 4 soldiers and wounding 7. The Portuguese asked for reinforcements from CHITOLO. Some hours later 5 lorries loaded with soldiers arrived at the spot and cleared the road. Our guerrillas prepared another ambush on the same road, waiting for the return of the 5 lorries to CHITOLO. When they returned they fell into the ambush. 2 lorries were destroyed and 17 more enemy soldiers put out of action.

- On the 7th of June 1967, at 4 pm. a company of FRELIMO guerrillas attacked the military post of MARERE, near the coast. The enemy was on parade, for the lowering of the flag. Our guerrillas advanced as far as the barbed wire and attacked by surprise with bazooka, grenades and machine gun fire. One platoon was annihilated and the other soldiers

scattered in panic. Afterwards, the guerrillas destroyed the barbed wire fences and entered the post. At that moment a boat which was anchored at the shore started shelling the post with cannons. Some of the shells fell among the Portuguese soldiers, killing many of them and damaging the post badly. At the same time a unit of marines who were in the boat advanced towards the post. Faced with the shelling and the enemy reinforcements, our guerrillas had to turn back.

At this attack 2 enemy platoons (about 60 soldiers) were annihilated. Three of our comrades were killed and four wounded.

NIASSA PROVINCE

During the period between the 21st of March and the 19th of May, in Niassa Province about 200 Portuguese soldiers were killed by FRELIMO guerrillas; 12 military vehicals were destroyed; 4 enemy camps and one boat were attacked. In all, 13 military operations were launched by FRELIMO guerrillas against the Portuguese colonialist forces.

- In the Eastern military region, on the 1st, 8th and 15th of May a total of 4 military vehicals were destroyed during ambushes made by FRELIMO guerrillas, on the road between LITUNDE and VILA CABRAL, and in MAUA. At least 20 enemy soldiers were put out of action.

- In the Western military region, on the 30th of April our guerrillas attacked a convoy of 30 Portuguese military vehicals on the road between MASSANGULO and the railway station of CATUR, 5 kms. from the station. One of the vehicals was completely destroyed and 3 others were put out of action.

- On the 10th of May, our guerrillas ambushed a convoy of 38 vehicals loaded with troops, on the road between MASSANGULO and VILLA CABROL. 2 "jeeps" in the rear were attacked and destroyed. All 12 soldiers who were in them were killed.

Israeli Aggression

Address by the Vice President of FRELIMO, Camrade URIA SIMANGO, on behalf of the Central Committee, at the Emergency Conference of the Organisation for Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity, in support of the Arab people in their battle against Imperialism and Israel.

Mr. Chairman,
Friends and Comrades,

The present convening of the emergency Conference to discuss an imperialist aggression perpetrated by Israel against the United Arab Republic, Syria and Jordan, in realisation of her world imperialist mission, has historical significance in the history of mankind and in the life of the Afro-Asian Peoples' solidarity Organisation. We are gathered at a moment when the lives of thousands of Syrians, thousands of Jordanians, thousands of Egyptians, thousands of Palestinians are at stake, when the best sons and daughters are being sacrificed, when the world is witnessing once more criminal acts such as we witnessed in the first and second World Wars, committed by the so-called "master race" of Hitler's Germany.

The Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO), the spearhead of the Mozambican people's resistance and revolutionary organisation, on behalf of the Mozambican People congratulates the Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation upon the convening and realisation of this Emergency Conference. With regard to the Middle East problem and the April and May intensification of the Israeli threat and psychological campaign, our Central Committee took a stand during the last days of May, to denounce Israel imperialist activities and to support the position of the people and government of the United Arab Republic and other Arab people and Governments. Our delegation therefore, Mr. Chairman, is determined, and is full of readiness to contribute to the maximum, in the condemnation of aggression, and in taking full measures and steps that the conference will deem adequate against the aggression. Our people, our organisation, our delegation fully share the sorrow and suffering of the Arab people at the hands of modern Israeli vandalism.

.....

The imperialist aggression we are discussing today, the present Middle East situation and the Arab peoples' struggle against imperialism, for independence and sovereignty, cannot be separated from the world struggle against exploitation, oppression and domination. The struggle is one and the same with the African, Asian and Latin American peoples'. The struggle is against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racial discrimination. The heroic Vietnamese people's struggle against United States aggression is one of the most typical cases of it and a very important part of the world struggle.

The Liberation Movement of the Arab people must be linked with the liberation movements of Africa, Asia and Latin America. With the aggression in question, Israel, Great Britain, West Germany and the United States of America, aimed at toppling the progressive governments of Syria and the United Arab Republic, and substituting for them, unpopular regimes, governments to their liking, with a view to liquidating the Arab Liberation movement. Their success would bring many difficulties and untold setbacks to the liberation movements of Africa, Asia and Latin America. The confession of the ex-majors of the Syrian army Salim Hatun and Badr Juman is clear proof of the involvement of the United States of America and other imperialist powers in the design to overthrow the progressive government of Syria. It can be said that the Israeli provocation and aggression did not happen by chance but is part of a special plan which is still in the process of unfolding.

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We salute the people and governments of the United Arab Republic, Syria and Jordan for their military stand and the courage they showed in confronting the enemy aggression.

We hereby affirm the right of the Arab people to repel the aggressor and to recover their occupied land by all means possible.

.....

Long live the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation!
Long live the Liberation Movement of the Arab Peoples!
Long live the Liberation Movement of the African, Asian
and Latin American People!

The United Nations Committee of 24

This year the U.N. Special Committee of 24 on Colonialism met in Dar es Salaam on June 12th. Previous petitions presented by FRELIMO to this Committee in 1965 and 1966 achieved little more than empty resolutions. Since then the situation in Mozambique has been developed by the independent action of our Liberation Forces, and this year a petition was put forward in order to describe this progress as well as to repeat our condemnation of Portuguese policy.

In his opening remarks the president, Dr. Mondlane, stressed that Portugal's attitude to Mozambique had in no way changed: she had, in fact, increased her military commitment, new consignments of soldiers arriving monthly from Portugal, and her methods remained those of utmost brutality. Also during that year, in defiance of U.N. resolutions, some of the major Western Powers had continued to support Portugal, to maintain extensive commercial relations with her and in some cases had increased their economic activities in her subjugated territories.

It was in the face of this brutal Portuguese oppression and the inactivity of the U.N. that FRELIMO freedom fighters had started themselves to take action in Mozambique. The petition would outline the achievements of these forces, particularly in the field of reconstruction within the liberated areas, and would describe some of the many problems that they faced.

In agriculture cooperatives had been formed, some land had been redistributed and certain essential farm implements were being imported. Despite frequent raids by the Portuguese, people in the Cabo Delgado province had cultivated more land than ever before and were able to grow crops of real use to them instead of the cash crops imposed by the Portuguese. To replace the commercial organisation which the Portuguese had destroyed when they left, FRELIMO had started a number of retail shops and were arranging for the import of essentials and the export of surplus agricultural produce. In the field of health, FRELIMO had established a number of health centres inside Mozambique and was busy training more medical staff at its centres in Tanzania. In education very important progress had been made and by 1967 10,000 children in Mozambique were receiving primary education, while in Tanzania the Mozambique Institute was providing secondary education for over 100 children.

All these projects of reconstruction, however, were being carried out against tremendous odds and the president emphasised that aid in personnel, equipment and finance was urgently needed.

There were a number of questions on the nature of the Portuguese military campaign, which were answered with further details on the increase in the Portuguese armed forces, the support Portugal received from NATO allies, and on the extensive propaganda machine which she was using to dupe the world about the reality of conditions inside Mozambique. Another series of questions asked for details about exactly what kind of help could be given to FRELIMO both by governments acting independently and through the organisations of the U.N. In answering the latter FRELIMO criticised the present policy of the U.N. which gave aid only to those Mozambicans who had fled the country, and did not help the many who remained in their own land, although many of these were refugees in the sense that they had been forced to leave their own villages to escape Portuguese reprisals. It was necessary to redefine "Refugee" so that this category would not be excluded from receiving help.

We know from previous years that the U.N. is hampered by some of its imperialist members, from taking positive action on our behalf. However there are a few hopeful signs: the High Commission for refugees has been asked by the Committee to act "in cooperation with the OAU and through it with the National Liberation Movements" to help refugees, and also "those who have suffered and are still suffering from the military operations."

It is said that nothing succeeds like success, and it is clear that our positive achievements made an impression on the Committee. It may be hoped, then, that this year the petition will have some small result, at least in increasing bilateral aid and possibly also in gaining some kind of positive assistance through the organisations of the U.N.

In Memory of Sigauke

Today is the first anniversary of the death of our comrade JAIME RIVAZ SIGAUKE. He was a member of the Central committee, and of the Political and Military committees of FRELIMO. He was assassinated by PIDE (Portuguese Political Police) agents while on a Party mission in Zambian territory.

JAIME RIVAZ SIGAUKE was one of the most dedicated Mozambicans to the cause of his people. Very few political leaders have had a patriotic past such as his was. He was present from the first hours, as an active militant in the ranks of the Mozambican nationalist movement. In 1960, he organised Mozambican workers in Southern Rhodesia. He was one of the founders of UDENAMO (Mozambican Democratic National Union) In 1962 he was arrested in Rhodesia by PIDE and was sent with an escort back to Mozambique. For 2 years the PIDE practised on him the most barbarous physical and moral tortures, in an attempt to emasculate his nationalism. Thinking that they had succeeded, in 1964, the Portuguese released him and put him under house arrest. A few months later SIGAUKE, with the help of FRELIMO, escaped from Mozambique and joined our liberation movement. Since then he had been mobilising the people in Mozambique, as head of FRELIMO Department of Internal Organisation.

Today we evoke his memory. The dedication of this comrade to the cause of national liberation, the sacrifice of all Mozambicans who gave their lives for the liberation of their country constitute an example which must always be present in the spirit of those who are fighting, following the same way, inspired by the same ideal.

We shall continue to fight until the total liberation of our people is achieved: this is our way of paying homage to our comrade SIGAUKE and to all those who have already fallen in the struggle for national liberation.

14th July 1964.

Factual Reports _____

Portugal and her Western allies are constantly denying that NATO or other Western arms are used to assist Portugal in her campaign of repression in Africa. The transparency of this claim, however, is such that a brief glance at Portugal's own press is enough to show up its falsity and give an idea of what the real situation is.

The following items are a selection out of several similar reports which have appeared in Portuguese papers over the last few months.

NATO

The meeting of the NATO Permanent Commission was held in Lisbon during April, this year. At this meeting the Portuguese Minister of the Navy stressed the importance of Portugal's colonies for the Alliance and implied that attacks on those territories were in fact attacks on NATO. 24th April 1967.

U.S.A.

Defense Secretary McNamara is quoted as saying: "The amount proposed for U.S. Military support for Portugal is justified by the use of Portuguese bases which are of the greatest importance to American interests,.....American military help to European countries has practically ceased, with the exception of small amounts to Spain and Portugal."

The Military and Naval attaches to the American Embassy in Lisbon visited Angola. The purpose of the visit was to survey the situation in that territory in order to report to their superiors. April 3rd 1967.

American Admiral Ruthven E. Libby declared in an interview to a Brazilian newspaper, that it is in the interest of America to support Portuguese policy in Africa. He compared the Portuguese Colonial wars to the American intervention in Vietnam. 10th April 1967

The American Ambassador in Lisbon, William Bennett junior, has left for Angola accompanied by the American military attache. He will spend two weeks in Angola and from there will go to Mozambique. 23rd July 1967

SWEDEN

Portugal is to start assembling the versatile Swedish aeroplane 'Vipan'. This plane is reported as being "Very well suited to Portuguese needs, especially for military operations in Africa." Other countries which will use the plane are Spain and South Africa.

The 'Vipan' assembly plant will be built at Benavente, near Lisbon, by a foreign concern, the 'Arcamo', associated with Portuguese capital.

Ambush in a Shamba

Translation of an article sent
by a FRELIMO fighter in Niassa
Province - ZAUQUEU NHASSENCO.

This happened in May this year, in Niassa Province. A group of Portuguese soldiers left their headquarters and penetrated the bush on a mission to locate our military bases.

- What belongs to us will be restored to us, even at the cost of our blood: This is the song of the Mozambican People -

In a certain zone, the Portuguese entered one of the people's shambas. They were looking around attentively, searching for one of the inhabitants. They were hoping to catch someone so that they could torture him and force him to reveal the position of our bases.

In that shamba there was a peasant taking care of his crops. He saw the enemy coming in the distance and camouflaged himself.

On the spur of the moment that peasant decided to ambush the Portuguese. The Portuguese were soldiers; he was a civilian. They were armed with modern weapons; he had only one grenade. However in spite of this immense disparity he did not hesitate. He preferred to face death gloriously, for his country, rather than to flee from the enemy. Although he

had only one greneade he preferred to confront the whole enemy detachment rather than to run away into the bush as if he were a thief. He was in his own country and he had to defend it. It was the others who were the thieves, the bandits. To run away would have been shameful and a treason to the country which had given him birth.

The troop of Portuguese bandits were busy destroying the crops. Our comrade was camouflaged, waiting for the enemies to pass by him. When the Commander was passing, that Mozambican peasant threw the grenade. The Commander and two soldiers were killed.

Who was that Commander? He was a Portuguese officer, a lieutenant. He had left his country, Portugal, to come and die in a shamba, in a distant country, far away from his family and friends, without any of his relatives to stand by him at his death. What was it that he came to do here? Did he not know that this was not his country? He was in Mozambique, not in Portugal, in Africa, not in Europe. He was killed by a simple man of the people, without training, without arms, - he, an officer, well trained. well armed, he, a Commander!- He died because he was a bandit, because he had come to rob and oppress the people, he had come to murder and plunder.

This is the fate which all those will suffer, who come to practise injustice against the people. We shall fight against them. We shall kill them or expel them from Mozambique.

"And the people were forced to fight and started fighting. They started fighting not because they like shedding blood, not because they like war, but because they were faced with the alternatives of slavery or death. They were faced with a situation in which they had to pay for freedom and justice with their own blood."

- FIDEL CASTRO

The information services of the Portuguese armed forces announce that the following have been killed in action in Mozambique: Sublieutenant Jose Felicio Rodrigues; paratroops 66/64 Manuel Carrilho Alves Pereira, 42/65 Francisco Fernando Carvalho Pinto Faria, and 33/66 Mario Jesus Vila Nova Maria.

Sipfa July 24th 1967.

Vietnam

STATEMENT OF FRELIMO CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 13th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE GENEVA AGREEMENT

On the occasion of the 13th anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Agreement, FRELIMO Central Committee reiterates the sympathy and solidarity of the fighters and of the whole Mozambican people with the people of Vietnam both North and South, the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the F.N.L. of South Vietnam.

Today, as throughout the years since 1954, American imperialism is seeking to prevent the Vietnamese People from realising their aspirations.

American imperialism has developed its aggressive character and has embroiled other governments in its ways of crime.

Already the governments of Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, the Philippines and Thailand have granted full support to the government of Linden Johnson, and are sending soldiers to fight against the people of South Vietnam.

At the same time the United States is using the most modern military techniques against North and South Vietnam.

Despite this vast deployment of human and material resources, despite the enormous sums being spent, the people of Vietnam both North and South are resisting successfully, and are forging, each day, the path which will lead them to a complete and decisive victory, that is, to the complete defeat of the imperialists of America and her satellites.

For us Mozambicans, who are facing, in armed combat, Portuguese colonialism supported by the combined forces of imperialism, the struggle of the Vietnamese people is a rich source of inspiration.

Today, particularly, after the recent Middle East crisis, it has become imperative to understand the nature and behaviour of imperialism. At any rate for the people of Africa, Asia and Latin America this is a question of urgency.

Solidarity between the peoples of these three continents together with the socialist countries and the progressive forces in capitalist countries is becoming an increasingly vital necessity. War-time and peace-time problems must rest in our hands. For these problems concern the people and their final solution will only be found by concerted action of the people themselves. The forces of the Third world, together with the forces of socialist countries, and the progressive elements within capitalist countries must be in a position to take a firm and just stand on problems relating to peace and war, and to impose this on the common enemy, imperialism.

It is only in this way that we shall be in a position to put an end to imperialist aggression. This is the lesson demonstrated by the victorious action of the people of Vietnam, it is the lesson of the Middle East crisis. It is also the conclusion that we Mozambicans are brought to after our experience of the armed struggle which we declared against Portuguese colonialism on September 25th 1964, and which we are at present successfully pursuing.

On this day of the 13th anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Agreement, we once more assure the people of North and South Vietnam, the Workers Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the F.N.L. of South Vietnam, of the revolutionary solidarity of our fighters and the whole Mozambican People.

May the people of Vietnam and the people of Mozambique remain united in the common armed struggle against colonialism and imperialism.

VICTORY WILL BE OURS !

CHIEF LUTHULI DIES

On July 21st ex Chief Albert Luthuli, former President General of the African National Congress, and Nobel Peace prize winner, was killed when he was hit by a goods train near his home in Stanger.

During his life Chief Luthuli had been one of the foremost fighters in the cause of the liberation of the people of South Africa. Throughout the progressive world he has been recognised and honoured for his work, although in South Africa he has suffered constant persecution, and since 1959 had been restricted to his home area. The circumstances of his death suggest that this was a final effort on the part of the South African authorities to silence this great man.

His death is a serious loss to the world struggle for liberation and he will be deeply mourned by people everywhere who are engaged in the same battle against racial discrimination, fascism and imperialism.

FOLLOWING MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT TO THE
AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

Comrades,

have learnt with shock of the death of your
ident, valiant fighter Chief Luthuli. We doubt the
information that he was killed by a train. His death,
we believe, was premeditated and organised.

We share with you, comrades, the sorrow and
difficulty of this hour. Accept our sincere condolences
and sympathy for all members of his family.

His death and the death of all our liberation and
revolutionary martyrs must be paid for with a high
price.

INDEPENDENCE OR DEATH! We shall be victorious.

The Central Committee - FRELIMO
July 22nd 1967.